IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, in this application.

1. (currently amended) A derivative formed between hyaluronic acid and at least one heterocyclic compound selected from the group consisting of guanine, thymine, cytosine, uracil, 5,6 dihydrouracil, 1-methyluracil, 3-methyluracil, 5-hydroxymethyluracil, 2-thiouracil, N^4-acetylcytosine, 3-methylcytosine, 5-methylcytosine, 5-hydroxymethylcytosine, 1-methylguanine, 7-methylguanine, N^2-methylguanine, and N^2, N^2-dimethylguanine; ~~purine or pyrimidine,~~ said derivative having at least one ionic bond ~~of a ionic type~~ between said hyaluronic acid and said at least one heterocyclic compound.

2. (original) The derivative according to Claim 1, characterized in that said hyaluronic acid is hyaluronic acid of high molecular weight.

3. (original) The derivative according to Claim 2, characterized in that said hyaluronic acid has a molecular weight of between 400 000 and 4 million dalton.

4. (original) The derivative according to Claim 3, characterized in that said hyaluronic acid has a molecular weight of between 800 000 and 3.5 million dalton.

5. (original) The derivative according to Claim 4, characterized in that said hyaluronic acid has a molecular weight of between 1.5 and 3 million dalton.

6. (original) The derivative according to Claim 1, characterized in that said hyaluronic acid is hyaluronic acid of low molecular weight.

Claim 7 (canceled)

8. (previously presented) A derivative formed between hyaluronic acid and at least one heterocyclic compound selected from the group consisting of guanine, thymine, and cytosine; said derivative having at least one ionic bond between said hyaluronic acid and said at least one heterocyclic compound.

9. (currently amended) The derivative according to Claim 1, characterized in that said ionic bond ~~of a ionic type~~ is obtained between said hyaluronic acid and at least two of said heterocyclic compounds that are the same as or different from one another.

10. (previously presented) The derivative according to Claim 8, characterized in that it is guanine hyaluronate.

Claim 11 (canceled)

12. (currently amended) The derivative according to Claim 1~~, characterized in that it is associated with~~ further comprising at least one organic compound selected from the group consisting of natural amino acids, their oligomers, and their polymers.

13. (currently amended) The derivative according to Claim [[12]] 10 further comprising at least one~~, characterized in that said~~ organic compound [[is]] selected from the group consisting of natural amino acids, their oligomers and their polymers.

14. (currently amended) The derivative according to Claim 10 further comprising polylysine [[13]], characterized in that it is guanine hyaluronate, polylysine.

15. (currently amended) A derivative having at least one ionic bond between hyaluronic acid and adenine, and further comprising polylysine ~~The derivative according to Claim 13~~, characterized in that it is adenine hyaluronate, polylysine.

16. (original) The derivative according to Claim 1, characterized in that it is cross-linked.

17. (original) The derivative according to Claim 16, characterized in that said cross-linking involves at least one hydroxyl group and/or at least one carboxyl group present on said hyaluronic acid.

18. (original) The derivative according to Claim 16, characterized in that said cross-linking is obtained with phosgene.

19. (currently amended) A process for the preparation of a derivative formed between hyaluronic acid and at least one heterocyclic compound referred to in ~~according to~~ Claim 1, the process comprising reacting at least one carboxyl group of the hyaluronic acid or a salt thereof with at least one amine group of the heterocyclic compound in free or salified form to form at least one ionic bond.

20. (currently amended) A process for the preparation of a derivative formed between hyaluronic acid and at least one heterocyclic compound, and ~~associated with~~ further comprising at least one organic compound referred to in ~~according to~~ Claim 12, the process comprising reacting ~~associating~~ said derivative or a salt thereof with said at least one organic compound in free or salified form.

Claims 21-22 (canceled)

23. (previously presented) A cosmetic or pharmaceutical composition comprising said derivative having at least one ionic bond between said hyaluronic acid and said at least one heterocyclic compound referred to in Claim 1.

24. (currently amended) A cosmetic or pharmaceutical composition comprising said derivative having at least one ionic bond between said hyaluronic acid and said at least one heterocyclic compound, and ~~associated with~~ further comprising at least one organic compound referred to in Claim 12.

Claims 25-26 (canceled)

27. (previously presented) The derivative according to Claim 12, characterized in that said organic compound is a peptide.

28. (new) The derivative according to Claim 13, characterized in that said organic compound is a peptide.

29. (new) The derivative according to Claim 8 further comprising at least one organic compound selected from the group consisting of natural amino acids, their oligomers, and their polymers.

30. (new) The derivative according to Claim 29, characterized in that said organic compound is a peptide.

31. (new) The derivative according to Claim 8, characterized in that it is cross-linked.

32. (new) The derivative according to Claim 31, characterized in that said cross-linking involves at least one hydroxyl group and/or at least one carboxyl group present on said hyaluronic acid.

33. (new) The derivative according to Claim 31, characterized in that said cross-linking is obtained with phosgene.